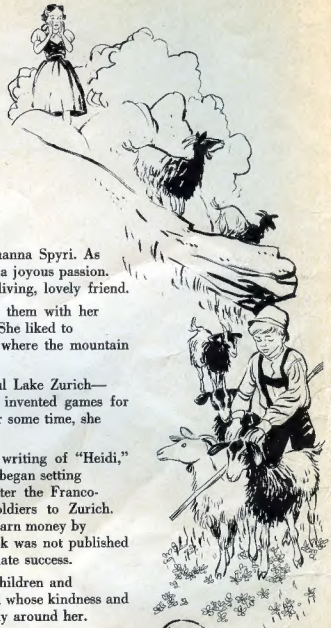
DELL
JUNIOR
TREASURY

NO. 6 15¢

Heidi

Heidi



"Heidi" is, in part, the story of its author, Johanna Spyri. As a little girl, Johanna loved the out-of-doors with a joyous passion. For her, as for Heidi, every wildflower was a living, lovely friend.

Johanna loved the mountains, and she roamed them with her friends, the goatherds, and the village children. She liked to gaze down into the wild chasm of the Sihl, to where the mountain stream rushed, foaming white.

At home, little Johanna looked out on beautiful Lake Zurich—or up to the forested slopes of Baarburg. She invented games for the whole family to play in the evening. But, for some time, she did not enjoy school.

All these childhood experiences went into the writing of "Heidi," when Johanna, a married woman of forty-three, began setting down the story. This was about 1871, right after the Franco-Prussian War had brought many crippled soldiers to Zurich. Johanna Spyri, wife of the town clerk, hoped to earn money by her writing to help these poor men. But the book was not published until nearly ten years later. Then it had immediate success.

And since then, more than two generations of children and grown-ups have loved HEIDI, the little Swiss girl whose kindness and joy of living bubbled over and cheered everybody around her.

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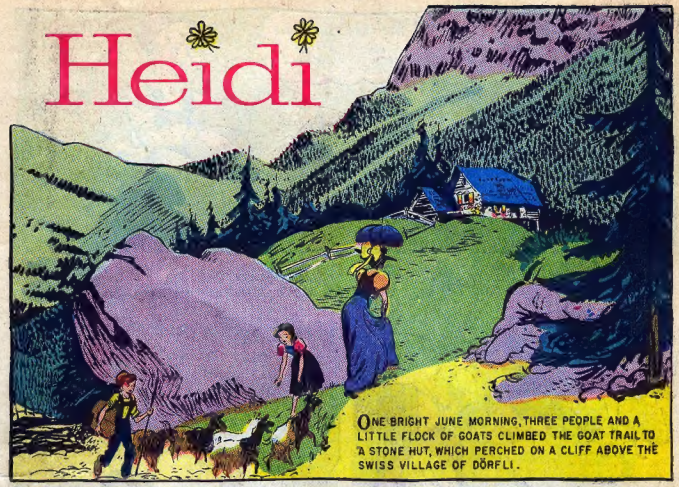
Heidi

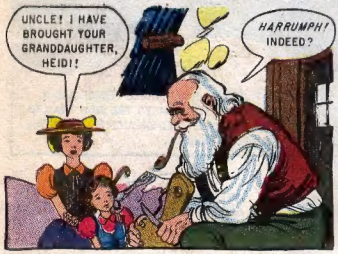

ONE BRIGHT JUNE MORNING, THREE PEOPLE AND A LITTLE FLOCK OF GOATS CLIMBED THE GOAT TRAIL TO A STONE HUT, WHICH PERCHED ON A CLIFF ABOVE THE SWISS VILLAGE OF DÖRFLI.

THE FIRST ONE WAS AUNT DETE, IMPATIENT BECAUSE SHE HAD A DUTY TO DO, WHICH SHE DISLIKED, AND FEARED A LITTLE, TOO.

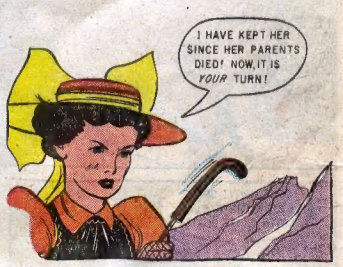
HEIDI, JUST SIX YEARS OLD, WAS NOT IMPATIENT OR IN A HURRY! THESE WERE THE FIRST GOATS SHE HAD EVER KNOWN.

DELL COMICS ARE GOOD COMICS

LAST CAME PETER, THE BOY GOATHERD. HE THOUGHT: " THEY WILL SEE! THE ALM-UNCLE LOVES GOATS, AND HATES PEOPLE - - - "!



WHEN AUNT DETE REACHED THE TOP OF THE CLIFF, SHE LED HEIDI TO THE ALM-UNCLE WHO SAT SMOKING AND FROWNING AT HER.

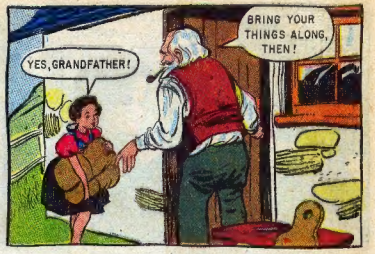


PERHAPS IT WAS PARTLY HER OWN CONSCIENCE THAT MADE DETE ANGRY! SHE SAID THE UNCLE SHOULD BE *MADE* TO TAKE HEIDI!

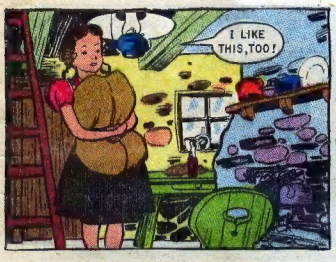
THE ALM-UNCLE ROSE TO HIS FEET, AND LOOKED SO FIERCELY AT HER THAT DETE WAS FRIGHTENED, AND BACKED HASTILY AWAY.

WHEN DETE HAD GONE, THE ALM-UNCLE SAT A LONG TIME WITHOUT SPEAKING - - - AND HEIDI GAZED IN WONDER AT THE THINGS AROUND HER.

LAST OF ALL, SHE CAME BACK TO GAZE AT HER GRANDFATHER---UNTIL HE HAD TO BREAK HIS SILENCE AND SPEAK TO HER.

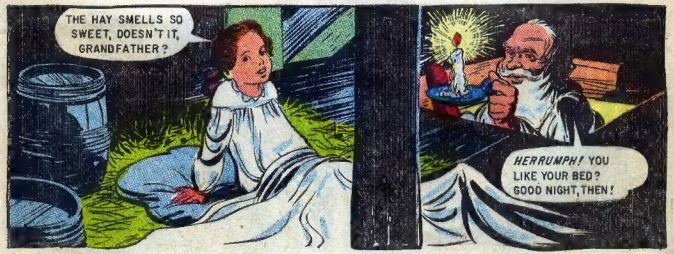


THE ALM-UNCLE'S VOICE WAS GRUFF, BUT WITH A KINDNESS IN IT THAT HEIDI LIKED . . . IT MADE HER FEEL AT HOME.

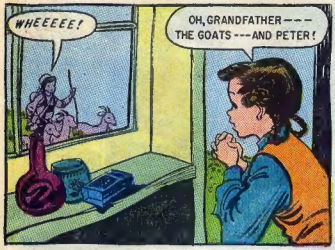


THE HUT HAD ONE ROOM---BIG ENOUGH AND WELL ENOUGH FURNISHED FOR JUST ONE PERSON . . . HEIDI TOOK A LONG LOOK.

THERE WAS ONLY ONE CHAIR, BUT THE GRANDFATHER GAVE IT TO HEIDI FOR A TABLE, AND SHE SAT ON THE STOOL, TO EAT HER DINNER.



WHEN DARKNESS FELL, THE GRANDFATHER MADE HEIDI A BED IN THE LOFT, ON A PILE OF NEW-MOWN HAY, WITH CLEAN, COARSE SHEETS.



EARLY THE NEXT MORNING, A SHRILL WHISTLE BROUGHT HEIDI RUNNING OUT OF THE HUT! SEEING THE GOATS, SHE SQUEALED WITH JOY.

THE GRANDFATHER BROUGHT OUT A SMALL BOWL, A BIG LUMP OF CHEESE AND A LITTLE BROWN LOAF FOR HEIDI'S LUNCH.

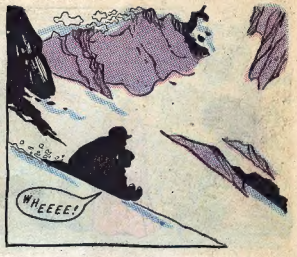
CLIMBING THE MOUNTAIN, HEIDI ALMOST FORGOT PETER AND THE GOATS, BECAUSE THE WILD FLOWERS WERE SO MANY AND SO BRIGHT.

WHEN THEY REACHED THE HIGHEST PASTURES, HEIDI RAN TO GAZE DOWN INTO A DEEP, DARK CHASM . . . SHE HAD NO FEAR OF THE HEIGHTS.

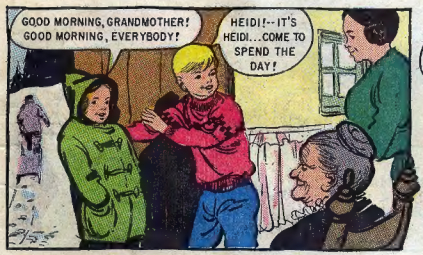
TO PLEASE PETER, SHE CHOSE A SAFER SPOT TO PLAY ---AND MANY TIMES THAT DAY THE GOATS LEFT THEIR FEEDING TO BE PETTED BY HER.

THE SUMMER WEEKS PASSED JOYOUSLY FOR HEIDI... AND THEN CAME THE FIRST DEEP SNOWFALL, BLANKETING THE ALM IN WHITE.

ONE SUNDAY, PETER STAYED TO SUPPER, AND GAVE HEIDI THE FIRST INVITATION SHE HAD EVER HAD TO VISIT ANYBODY.

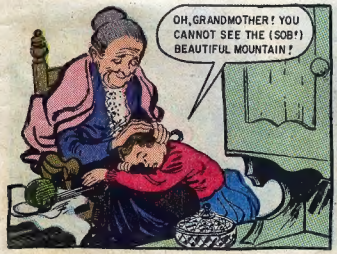


THE GRANDFATHER WAS GRUFF ABOUT IT AT FIRST, BUT HEIDI'S COAXING WON HIM OVER! THEY WENT DOWN THE MOUNTAIN ON A SLED.



THE GRANDFATHER WOULD NOT GO INSIDE, BUT HE TOLD HEIDI HE WOULD COME FOR HER BEFORE DARK AND BRING HER HOME.

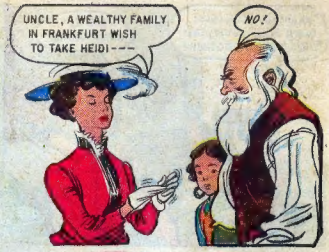
HEIDI HAD NEVER KNOWN A BLIND PERSON... AND TO THINK THAT THE POOR GRANDMOTHER'S EYES WOULD ALWAYS BE SHUT BROKE HER HEART!



SHE SOBBED UNTIL THE GRANDMOTHER'S LAP WAS WET WITH TEARS... "OH, IF ONLY I COULD HELP HER TO SEE!" HEIDI THOUGHT.

HEIDI FELT HER GRANDFATHER COULD DO ANYTHING! SHE NEVER GUESSED HOW MUCH LIGHT *SHE* HAD BROUGHT TO THE GRANDMOTHER'S HEART.

TWO HAPPY YEARS WENT BY, AND THEN — — HEIDI WAS JUST EIGHT WHEN AUNT DETE APPEARED ONCE MORE AT THE TOP OF THE CLIFF.



DETE EXPLAINED THAT THE RICH SESEMANS HAD AN INVALID DAUGHTER, AND WOULD LIKE HEIDI TO BE HER COMPANION — — — FOR LIFE!

GRANDFATHER'S GRUFF ANSWER MADE DETE EXPLODE SINCE HE HAD NOT SENT HEIDI TO SCHOOL AND CHURCH, SHE WARNED, THE COURT WOULD ACT!

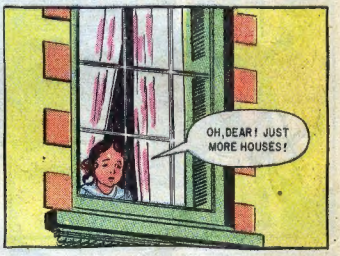
THE GRANDFATHER CAME TO HIS FEET ROARING LIKE AN OLD LION WOUNDED TO THE HEART — — — AND SO HE WAS!

POOR HEIDI WAS NOT ALLOWED ANY CHOICE IN THE MATTER! AUNT DETE BUNDLED UP HER SPARE CLOTHES AND PULLED HER AWAY!

THAT EVENING, AUNT DETE BROUGHT HEIDI TO THE GRAND HOME OF THE SESEMANS', AND PRESENTED HER TO SOUR-FACED FRAULEIN ROTTENMEIER.

FROM THAT MOMENT ON, EVERYTHING THAT HEIDI SAID OR DID SEEMED TO DISPLEASE FRAULEIN ROTTENMEIER, WHO KEPT THE SESEMANS' HOUSE.

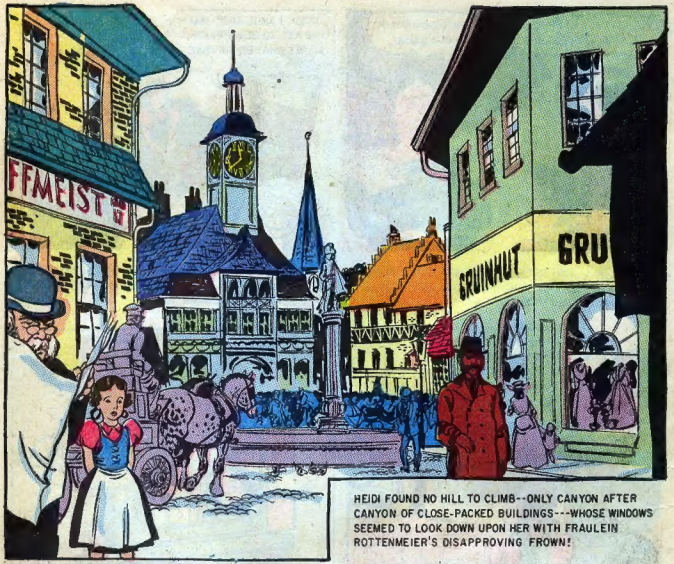
AFTER A SUPPER IN THE STIFF AND ELEGANT DINING ROOM, HEIDI WAS LED TO HER UPSTAIRS BEDROOM AND LEFT THERE ALONE.



HEIDI COULD HARDLY SLEEP THAT NIGHT FOR HOME-SICKNESS... AND, IN THE MORNING, THERE WAS NO MOUNTAIN TO BE SEEN THROUGH THE WINDOWS.

SINCE THERE SEEMED TO BE NOBODY ABOUT, SHE WENT DOWN TO THE FRONT DOOR... THE WIDE STAIRS MADE HER LONG FOR HER GOAT PATHS.

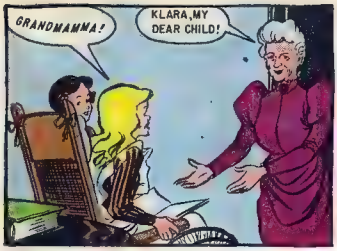
SHE THOUGHT THAT IF ONLY SHE COULD CLIMB A HILL, SHE WOULD SEE THE BEAUTIFUL ALM MOUNTAIN--- EVEN THOUGH IT WAS FAR AWAY.



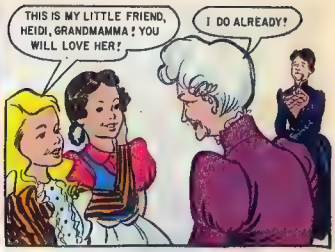
HEIDI FOUND NO HILL TO CLIMB--ONLY CANYON AFTER CANYON OF CLOSE-PACKED BUILDINGS---WHOSE WINDOWS SEEMED TO LOOK DOWN UPON HER WITH FRAULEIN ROTTENMEIER'S DISAPPROVING FROWN!

SOMEHOW SHE FOUND HER WAY BACK TO THE SESEMANS' DOOR WITH THE LION'S HEAD KNOCKER---IN TIME TO BE CAUGHT BY FRAULEIN ROTTENMEIER.

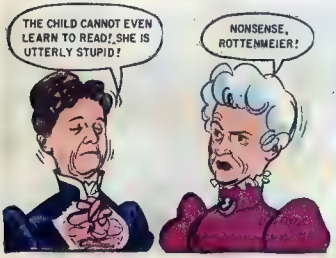
THE FRAULEIN SHOOK HEIDI BY THE ARM! HER VOICE GREW SHRILL, AND HER WORDS WERE LIKE HAMMER BLOWS ON HEIDI'S HOMESICK HEART.



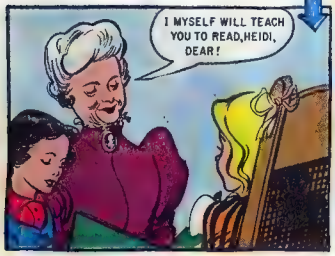
IN THE LATE WINTER, KLARA'S GRANDMAMMA CAME TO VISIT ---AND HER SMILE WAS LIKE A RAY OF SUNSHINE IN THE BIG, GLOOMY HOUSE.



THE GRANDMAMMA ASKED HEIDI IF SHE HAD BEEN READING A STORY TO KLARA! BUT HEIDI SHOOK HER HEAD AND SAID SHE COULDN'T READ.

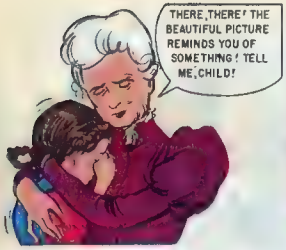


FRAULEIN ROTTENMEIER APPEARED TO GIVE *HER* OPINION, BUT THE KIND AND WISE GRANDMAMMA QUICKLY PUT HER IN HER PLACE.



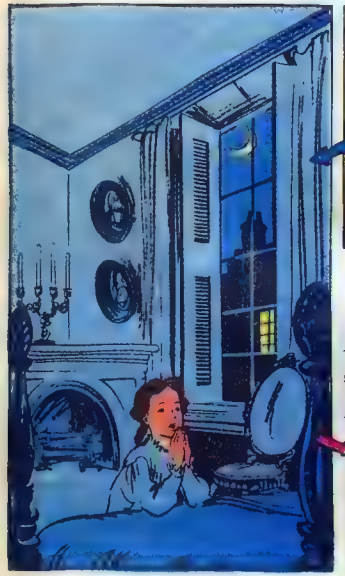
GRANDMAMMA SESEMAN WAS AS GOOD AS HER WORD! AND, BECAUSE HEIDI WANTED TO PLEASE HER, SHE TRIED HARD TO LEARN.

BUT WHEN GRANDMAMMA TURNED TO A BEAUTIFUL PICTURE OF A SHEPHERD WITH HIS FLOCK ON THE MOUNTAIN, HEIDI CHOKED — — —



HEIDI THOUGHT OF HER OWN MOUNTAIN AND HER GOATS--- AND WEPT... BUT, IF SHE TOLD WHY, GRANDMAMMA WOULD THINK HER UNGRATEFUL!

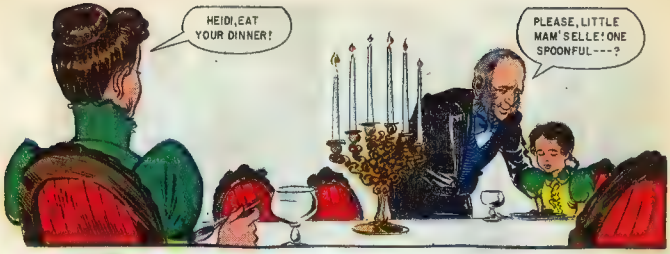
GRANDMAMMA COMFORTED HER, AND SAID THAT HEIDI COULD TELL THE DEAR LORD ANYTHING! HE WOULD MAKE IT ALL COME OUT RIGHT.



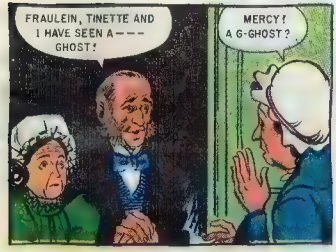
THAT NIGHT, HEIDI TOLD THE LORD HOW HOMESICK SHE WAS, AND ASKED HIM TO MAKE EVERYTHING COME OUT RIGHT, SOON!

HEIDI WANTED THAT PICTURE OF THE SHEPHERD SO MUCH THAT SHE DETERMINED NOTHING WOULD KEEP HER FROM LEARNING TO READ.

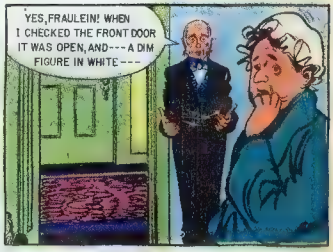
BEFORE GRANDMAMMA SESEMAN HAD TO GO AWAY, THE BEAUTIFUL BOOK WAS HEIDI'S OWN... AND HER FAVORITE STORY WAS "THE PRODIGAL SON"



AFTER GRANDMAMMA SESEMAN WENT AWAY, HEIDI BECAME STILL MORE HOMESICK, AND LOST HER APPETITE... SHE GREW THIN AND PALE.



A MONTH LATER, SEBASTIAN THE BUTLER AND TINETTE THE MAID CAME TO FRAULEIN ROTTENMEIER ONE NIGHT, WITH A SHOCKING STORY.



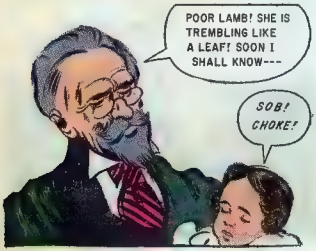
SEBASTIAN SAID IT WAS NOT THE FIRST TIME HE HAD FOUND THE DOOR MYSTERIOUSLY OPEN---BUT NOW HE HAD ACTUALLY SEEN THE GHOST!

FOR SEVERAL DAYS PEOPLE CREPT ABOUT THE HOUSE LOOKING OVER THEIR SHOULDERS, AND THEN FRAULEIN ROTTENMEIER WROTE KLARA'S FATHER TO COME HOME!

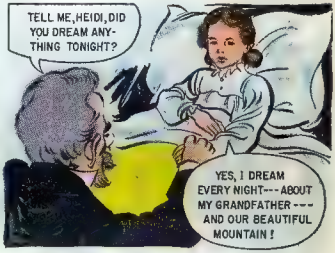
WHEN HERR SESEMAN ARRIVED WITH HIS CLOSEST FRIEND THE DOCTOR, THEY DECIDED TO TRAP THE "GHOST".

AS THE CLOCK STRUCK ONE, THE WATCHERS FELT A COLD DRAUGHT, AND SAW, IN THE OPENING DOOR, A WHITE-GOWNED LITTLE FIGURE!

THE GOOD DOCTOR TOLD HERR SESEMAN THAT THIS WAS A CASE THAT HE, AS A MEDICAL DOCTOR, COULD HANDLE BEST ALONE.



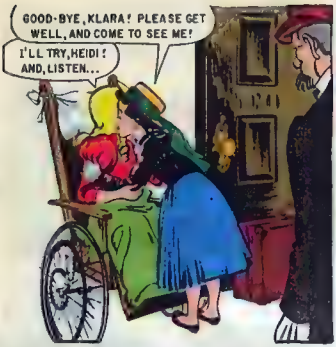
HE CARRIED THE CHILD UPSTAIRS TO HER ROOM. HEIDI WAS AWAKE NOW, AND CRYING SOFTLY, IN SPITE OF HERSELF.



SHE TOLD THE GOOD DOCTOR THAT IN HER DREAMS SHE COULD HEAR THE FIR TREES ROARING, AND SEE THE STARS SO BRIGHT AND NEAR.

SUDDENLY THE MEMORIES OF HOME BECAME TOO MUCH FOR HER, AND SHE BURIED HER FACE IN HER PILLOW, SOBBING LOUDLY.

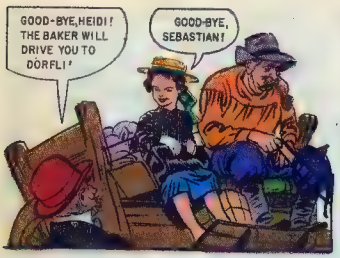
THE DOCTOR TOLD HIS FRIEND THAT HEIDI MUST BE SENT HOME TO HER GRANDFATHER TOMORROW --- BEFORE SHE BECAME TOO SICK TO TRAVEL.



THE NEXT MORNING, AS SHE SAID GOOD-BYE, KLARA TOLD HEIDI THAT SHE HAD PACKED SOME GIFTS FOR HEIDI'S FRIENDS IN HER BUNDLE.

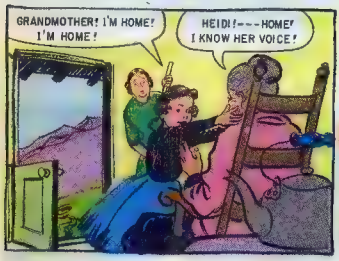
SEBASTIAN HELPED HER ONTO THE RAILROAD TRAIN AT FRANKFURT STATION, AND TRAVELED WITH HER, TO BE SURE SHE ARRIVED SAFELY.

THE TRAIN HUFFED AND PUFFED ITS WAY UP AND UP INTO THE MOUNTAINS, CARRYING THE HAPPIEST LITTLE GIRL IN ALL THE WORLD! IN THEIR SPRING DRESS OF GREEN, THE MOUNTAINS LOOKED LOVELIER THAN EVER.



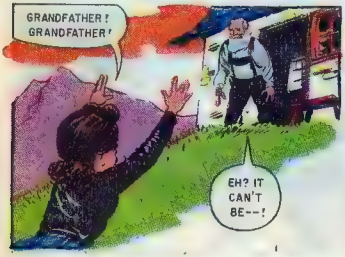
AT MAYENFELD, WHERE THE TRAIN STOPPED, SEBASTIAN LEFT THEM. HEIDI KNEW THE BAKER OF DÖRFLI, AND FELT THAT SHE WAS NEARLY HOME!

AN HOUR LATER SHE WAS CLIMBING THE PATH ABOVE THE VILLAGE AS FAST AS SHE COULD MOVE, WITH HER BIG BUNDLE OF CLOTHES AND GIFTS.

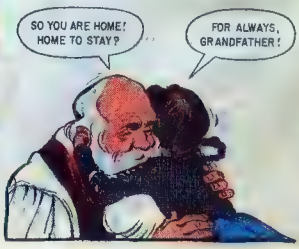


AT THE DOOR OF PETER'S HOUSE, SHE DID NOT STOP TO KNOCK, BUT BURST IN AND RAN TO THE OLD BLIND WOMAN WITH A GLAD SHOUT.

MINUTES LATER SHE WAS CLIMBING TO HER GRANDFATHER'S CLIFF TOP---PAUSING ONLY TO DRINK IN THE BEAUTY OF THE SUNSET.



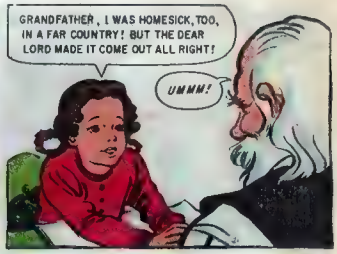
ALMOST BEFORE THE ALM-UNCLE COULD REALLY SEE WHO WAS COMING, HEIDI RAN TO HIM, CALLING HIS NAME, HER FACE SHINING.



SHE HUGGED HIM UNTIL HE COULD HARDLY BREATHE---AND THEN SHE TOLD HIM ALL THAT HAD HAPPENED SINCE AUNT DETE TOOK HER TO FRANKFURT.

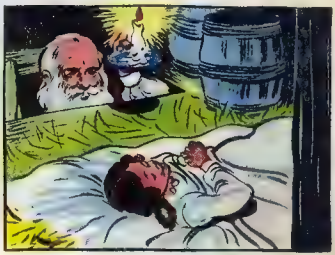
BEFORE SHE HAD FINISHED, A LOUD WHISTLE CUT THE AIR, AND PETER CAME BOUNDING DOWN THE MOUNTAIN BEHIND THE GOATS.

AND NOW HEIDI'S WORLD WAS COMPLETELY HAPPY AGAIN. PETER DIDN'T SAY ANYTHING, BUT HE STOOD GRINNING AT HEIDI AND HER GOATS.



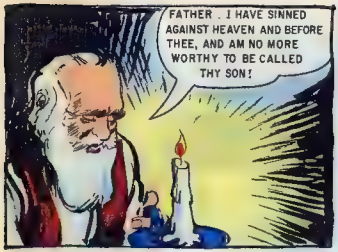
THAT NIGHT SHE READ TO HER GRANDFATHER THE STORY OF THE PRODIGAL SON, WHO CAME HOME AGAIN FROM A FAR COUNTRY.

WHEN SHE HAD FINISHED THE STORY, GRANDFATHER LOOKED SO SOLEMN THAT HEIDI THOUGHT PERHAPS HE WAS NOT FEELING WELL.

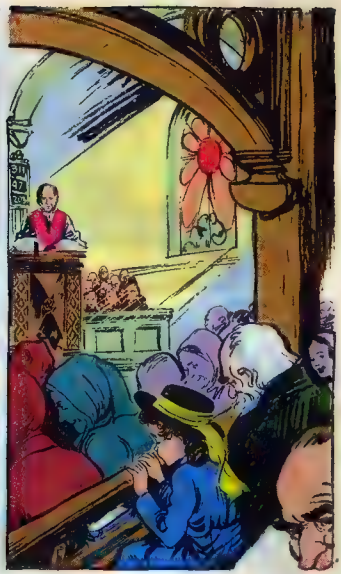


AFTER HEIDI HAD CLIMBED UP TO HER BED IN THE LOFT, THE ALM-UNCLE SAT FOR A LONG TIME THINKING AND STARING AT THE FIRE.

THEN HE CLIMBED THE LADDER AND STOOD LOOKING AT HEIDI'S FACE. SHE HAD FALLEN ASLEEP SAYING HER PRAYERS.



THE GRANDFATHER BOWED HIS HEAD AND REPEATED THE WORDS OF THE RETURNING PRODIGAL --- AS TEARS ROLLED DOWN HIS CHEEKS.



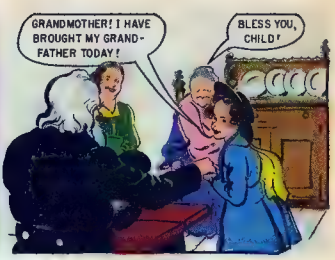
THE NEXT DAY WAS SUNDAY--- AND HEIDI'S GRANDFATHER TOOK HER TO CHURCH IN DORFLI --- WHERE HE HAD NOT BEEN SEEN IN MANY YEARS.

THE PEOPLE WERE SO SURPRISED THAT THEY COULD HARDLY KEEP THEIR MINDS ON THE SERMON--- BUT HEIDI AND HER GRANDFATHER DID NOT MISS A WORD!

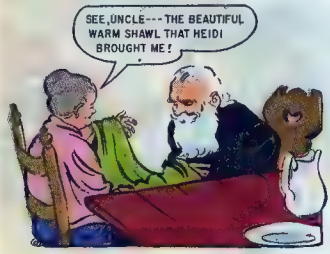
AFTER THE SERVICE, THE PASTOR TOOK THE GRANDFATHER'S HAND AND SPOKE WITH WARM FEELING TO HIM AND TO HEIDI.

AND THEN THE GRANDFATHER'S OLD FRIENDS GATHERED AROUND WITH PLEASANT WORDS. HEIDI WAS SO HAPPY THAT HER FEET WOULD NOT KEEP STILL!

ON THE WAY HOME THEY STOPPED AT THE COTTAGE WHERE PETER LIVED WITH HIS MOTHER AND GRANDMOTHER, BECAUSE HEIDI INSISTED.

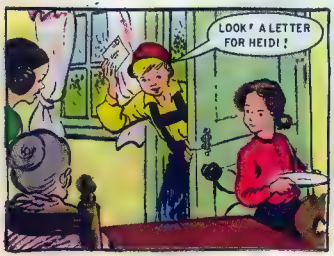


IT WAS THE FIRST TIME THAT THE GRANDFATHER HAD BEEN INSIDE THE COTTAGE IN MANY A LONG YEAR, BUT HE WAS WELCOME.



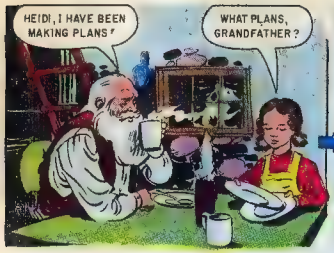
THE OLD, BLIND LADY SHOWED HIM HER PRESENTS, AND THEY CHATTED LIKE OLD FRIENDS---INSTEAD OF OF THE STRANGERS THEY HAD BEEN.

BRIGITTE TOOK THE UNCLE ASIDE AND SHOWED HIM THE HAT THAT HEIDI HAD WORN FROM FRANKFURT--AND REFUSED TO TAKE HOME!

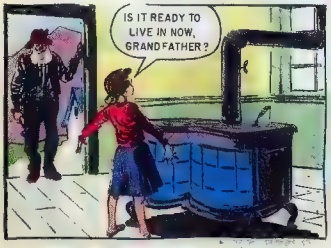


JUST THEN, PETER RUSHED IN WITH A LETTER IN HIS HAND! A LETTER WAS SUCH A RARE THING ON THE MOUNTAIN THAT EVERYBODY GASPED.

FAIRLY JUMPING FOR JOY, HEIDI SPELLED OUT THE NOTE. KLARA WAS GROWING A LITTLE STRONGER, BUT COULD NOT COME TILL NEXT SPRING.

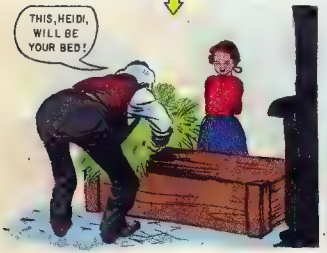


AT DINNER THAT DAY, THE GRANDFATHER TOLD HEIDI THAT THEY WOULD MOVE TO DORFLI FOR THE WINTER, SO SHE COULD GO TO SCHOOL.



AT LAST THE MAIN ROOM WAS FINISHED! IT HAD A WONDERFUL BIG OLD IRON STOVE, WITH BLUE TILES

ALMOST EVERY DAY THE GRANDFATHER TOOK HIS BOX OF TOOLS DOWN TO WORK ON AN OLD TUMBLEDOWN HOUSE. SINCE NOBODY WANTED THE OLD HOUSE THEY WOULD HAVE TO PAY NO RENT, AND FIXING IT UP WAS WONDERFUL FUN FOR HEIDI.



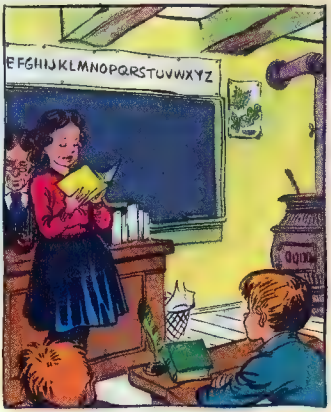
THERE WAS A BIG APPLE BOX BEHIND THE STOVE, WHICH THE GRANDFATHER FILLED WITH SWEET-SMELLING HAY! HEIDI WAS DELIGHTED WITH IT.

NEXT, THE GRANDFATHER STOPPED UP THE HOLES IN THE OUTER ROOM, WHERE THE GREAT FIREPLACE GAPED, WITH ITS IRON POT CRANES.

LAST OF ALL, THE GRANDFATHER BUILT A SNUG SHED FOR THE TWO GOATS, AGAINST THE MAIN WALL OF THE HOUSE, AND HEIDI LED THEM IN.

ON THE DAY THAT HEIDI WAS TO ENTER SCHOOL, TWO FEET OF SNOW LAY ON THE GROUND! AT FIRST, HEIDI WAS WORRIED...

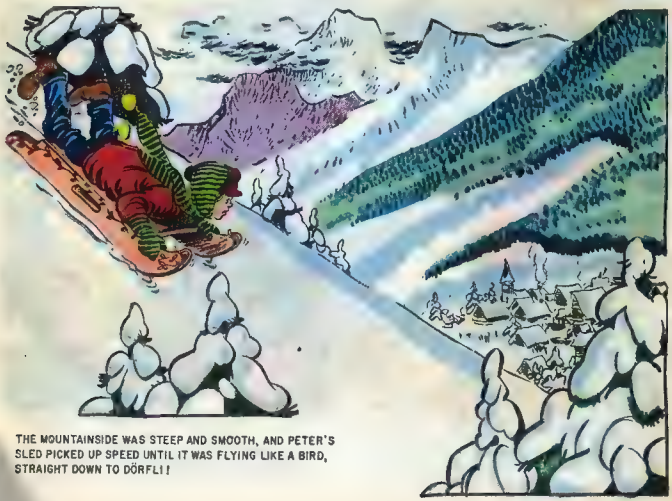
BUT THE GRANDFATHER WALKED AHEAD OF HER TO THE SCHOOL, TRAMPING DOWN THE SOFT SNOW WITH HIS FEET! IT WAS FUN.



HEIDI READ FROM A BOOK EASILY FOR THE TEACHER, WHO REMARKED THAT AFTER TWO YEARS, PETER DID NOT EVEN KNOW HIS A, B, C'S!

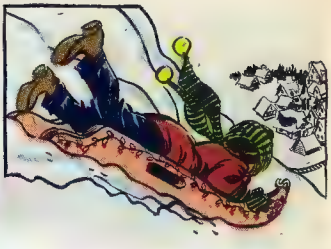
A FEW MORNINGS LATER, PETER JUMPED OUT OF HIS WINDOW ONTO A HARD-FROZEN SNOW CRUST, AND WAS SO SURPRISED THAT HE LOST HIS BALANCE...

---AND WENT SPRAWLING. BUT HE WAS NOT HURT A BIT, AND WHEN HE SAW HIS MOTHER IN THE WINDOW, HE HAD GOOD NEWS TO TELL.

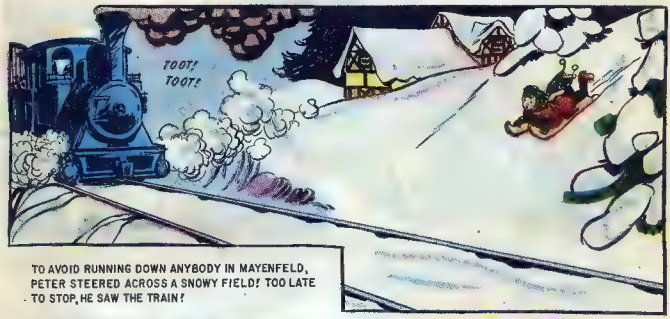


THE MOUNTAINSIDE WAS STEEP AND SMOOTH, AND PETER'S SLED PICKED UP SPEED UNTIL IT WAS FLYING LIKE A BIRD, STRAIGHT DOWN TO DÖRFLI!

WHEN HE REACHED THE VILLAGE, HE WAS GOING MUCH TOO SWIFTLY TO STOP---AND PEOPLE HAD BARELY TIME TO GET OUT OF HIS WAY.

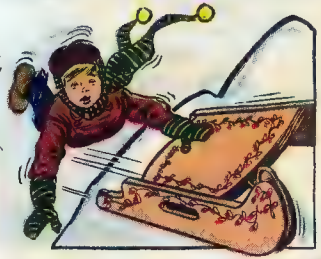


BEYOND DÖRFLI THERE WAS ANOTHER SLOPE WHICH LED DOWN TO THE VILLAGE OF MAYENFELD... AND AGAIN PETER'S SLED GAINED SPEED.



TO AVOID RUNNING DOWN ANYBODY IN MAYENFELD, PETER STEERED ACROSS A SNOWY FIELD! TOO LATE TO STOP, HE SAW THE TRAIN!

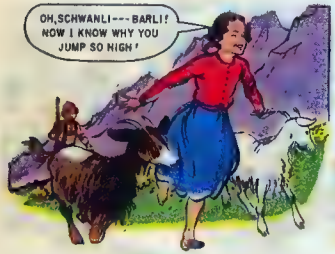
FORTUNATELY, THE TRAIN WAS GOING VERY SLOWLY, AND THE ENGINEER SAW HIM IN TIME TO USE HIS BRAKES... BUT IT WAS A CLOSE CALL!



PETER WAS SO FRIGHTENED THAT HE FAILED TO STEER AWAY FROM A SNOW-COVERED ROCK---AND UPSET WHILE STILL GOING PRETTY FAST.

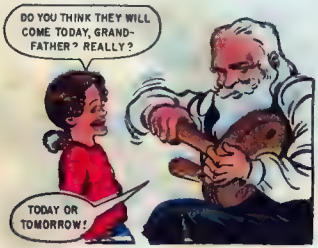
AS A RESULT, PETER DID NOT GET BACK TO DORFLI UNTIL SCHOOL WAS OVER, AND HEIDI AND HER GRANDFATHER WERE EATING DINNER.

THE WINTER PASSED QUICKLY FOR HEIDI---AND SUDDENLY IT WAS SPRING AGAIN ON THE MOUNTAIN, WITH WILD-FLOWERS AT THE EDGE OF THE SNOW!



HEIDI BOUNDED OVER THE STEEP LITTLE MEADOWS WITH THE GOATS, AND FELT AS IF SHE WOULD BURST WITH THE JOY OF LIVING.

THE ALM-UNCLE HUMMED TO HIMSELF, AS HE SHAPED MORE STOOLS---FOR A LETTER HAD COME FROM GRANDMAMMA SESEMAN, AND ANOTHER FROM KLARA.



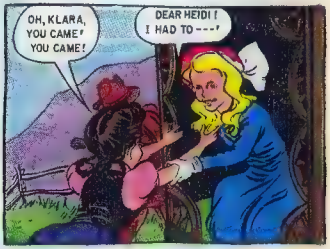
AS THE TIME DREW NEAR FOR THEIR GUESTS TO ARRIVE, HEIDI GREW MORE AND MORE EXCITED, AND STAYED CLOSE TO THE HUT.

ALONG IN THE AFTERNOON, HEIDI RAN TO THE TOP OF THE PATH FOR THE TWENTIETH TIME---AND GAVE A SHRIEK OF PURE HAPPINESS.

FIRST CAME TWO STRONG PORTERS, WITH THE POLES OF A SEDAN CHAIR ON THEIR SHOULDERS – – – AND IN THE CHAIR, KLARA SESEMAN!

NEXT CAME FRAU SESEMAN, KLARA'S GRANDMAMMA, ON A WHITE HORSE! SHE LOOKED ABOUT WITH SMILING EYES AT THE WONDERFUL MOUNTAIN VIEW.

AND, LASTLY, TWO MORE PORTERS CAME TRUDGING UP THE TRAIL, LOADED DOWN WITH A WHEEL CHAIR AND A PACK BASKET AND BLANKETS.

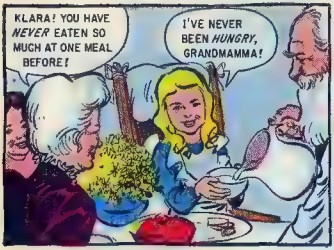


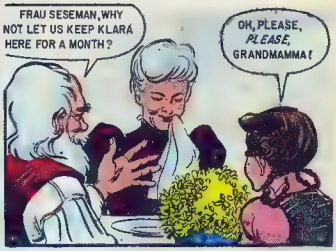
THE MINUTE KLARA'S CHAIR WAS SET DOWN ON THE CLIFF TOP, HEIDI WAS HUGGING HER FRIEND FROM THE CITY – – – AND BEING HUGGED.

THE ALM-UNCLE HELPED GRANDMAMMA SESEMAN DOWN FROM HER HORSE, AND HIS SMILE TOLD HER MORE THAN WORDS THAT SHE WAS WELCOME!

THEN HEIDI'S GRANDFATHER LIFTED KLARA FROM THE SEDAN INTO HER OWN WHEEL CHAIR, AS IF HE HAD BEEN DOING IT ALL THE TIME.

AS THE LATE AFTERNOON SUN THREW ITS GOLDEN LIGHT AGAINST THE MOUNTAINS, AND THE ROOF-TOPS OF DÖRFLI BELOW, THE GRANDFATHER AND HEIDI AND THEIR GUESTS SAT DOWN TO SUPPER OUT OF DOORS!



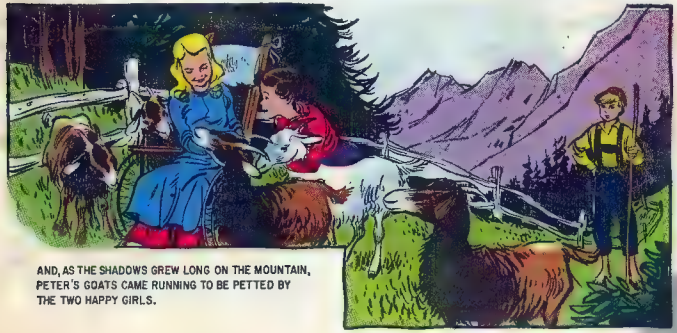


WHEN EVERYBODY HAD FINISHED EATING, KLARA ASKED FOR ANOTHER BOWL OF MILK! THE ALM-UNCLE SAID THAT MOUNTAIN AIR ALWAYS GIVES APPETITE.

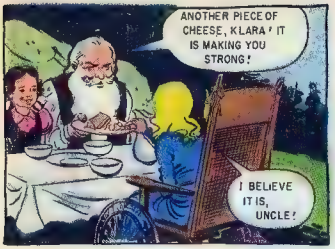
THEN HE TURNED TO THE GRAND OLD LADY WITH A SUGGESTION --- AND ADDED THAT MOUNTAIN FOOD AND AIR COULD WORK A MIRACLE.

THE GRANDMAMMA WAS STARTLED AT FIRST, BUT WHEN SHE HAD THOUGHT IT OVER, SHE AGREED THAT A CHANGE MIGHT DO KLARA GOOD.

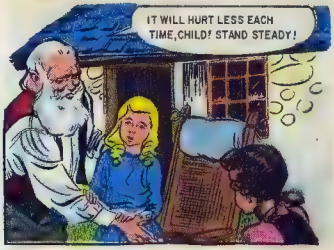
SO, THAT EVENING, THE ALM-UNCLE LED GRANDMAMMA'S HORSE DOWN THE GOAT TRAIL TO DÖRFLI, WHERE A CARRIAGE WOULD TAKE HER TO THE TRAIN.



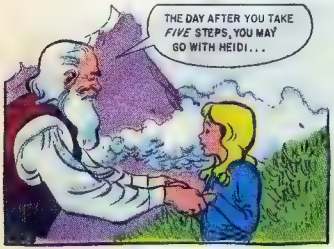
AND, AS THE SHADOWS GREW LONG ON THE MOUNTAIN, PETER'S GOATS CAME RUNNING TO BE PETTED BY THE TWO HAPPY GIRLS.



EVERY DAY, FROM THEN ON, THE INVALID'S APPETITE GREW LARGER... HER PALE CHEEKS FILLED OUT, AND TOOK ON COLOR.



IN THE SECOND WEEK THE ALM-UNCLE BEGAN COAXING KLARA TO STAND FOR A FEW MOMENTS BESIDE HER CHAIR, HOLDING TO HIS HANDS.

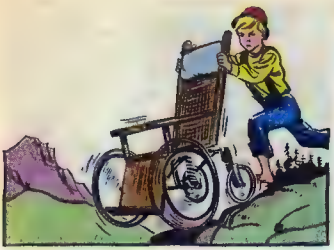


HIS PATIENCE, AND THE GOOD MEALS KLARA WAS EATING, AND THE WONDERFUL, HEALING POWER OF THE MOUNTAIN AIR BROUGHT RESULTS.

BUT PETER WAS NOT GLAD WHEN TOLD THE NEWS! FOR WEEKS NOW, HE HAD NOT HAD HEIDI TO HIMSELF, AND HE WAS JEALOUS.

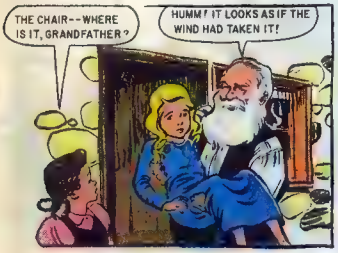
HE SAID NEVER A WORD IN REPLY, BUT DASHED AWAY IN A RAGE, SWINGING HIS ROD AS IF HE WOULD LIKE TO HIT SOMEBODY HARD.

THE NEXT MORNING, WHEN HE CAME TO THE CLIFFTOP, HE SAW KLARA'S WHEEL CHAIR WAITING OUTSIDE THE HUT, QUITE UNGUARDED.



OBEYING A FIERCE IMPULSE, PETER SEIZED THE CHAIR AND RAN WITH IT TO THE CLIFF! IF IT WERE GONE, KLARA COULD NOT COME WITH HEIDI---!

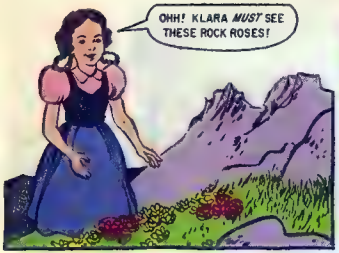
THE CHAIR WAS PETER'S ENEMY--- AND HE WATCHED IT GO TO PIECES WITH GREAT SATISFACTION! HE THOUGHT ONLY OF HIMSELF!



TWO MINUTES LATER, WHEN GRANDFATHER CARRIED KLARA OUT OF THE HUT, NEITHER THE CHAIR NOR PETER WERE ANYWHERE IN SIGHT.

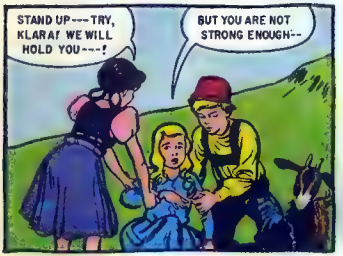
THE TWO GIRLS WERE GLAD AND GRATEFUL WHEN THE ALM-UNCLE STARTED UP THE MOUNTAIN--- JUST AS FAST AS IF THEY HAD HAD THE WHEEL CHAIR.

THEY FOUND PETER LYING ON THE GRASS, AND SCOWLING AS IF HIS STOMACH HURT HIM; BUT THE GOATS RAN TO GREET HEIDI.



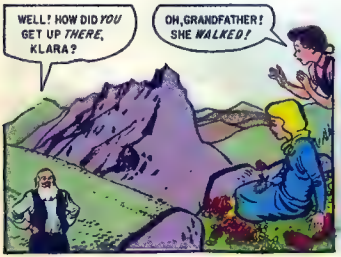
SOME TIME AFTER HER GRANDFATHER HAD GONE DOWN THE MOUNTAIN, HEIDI CLIMBED TO A LEDGE WHERE THE WILDFLOWERS GREW.

THEN A WONDERFUL IDEA CAME TO HEIDI AND SHE BOUNCED DOWN FROM THE LEDGE LIKE BARLI OR SCHWANLI, CALLING TO PETER.

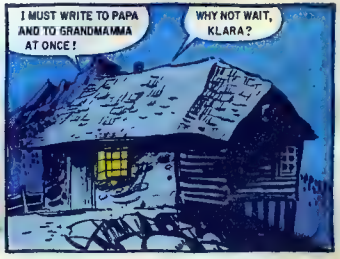


TOGETHER THEY LIFTED KLARA TO HER FEET. ALTHOUGH PETER WISHED KLARA WASN'T THERE, HE DARE NOT SHOW IT TO HEIDI!

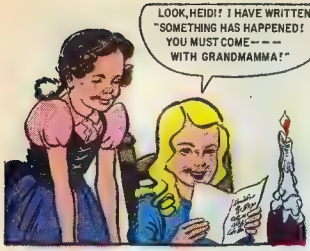
A STEP AT A TIME, WITH MANY RESTS, KLARA ACTUALLY WALKED TO WHERE THE ROSES GREW! EACH NEW STEP HURT LESS THAN THE LAST.



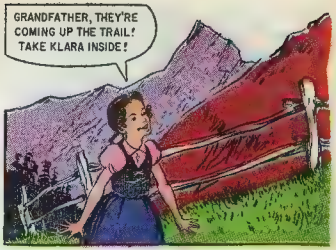
WHEN THE ALM-UNCLE RETURNED TO CARRY KLARA DOWN TO THE HUT, HE WAS MORE SURPRISED THAN ANYBODY--- EXCEPT KLARA HERSELF!



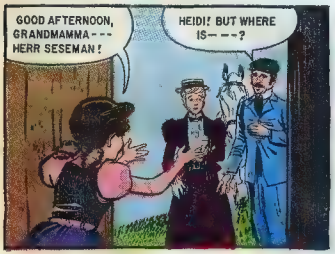
WHEN THEY TALKED IT OVER AT SUPPER, THE ALM-UNCLE HAD AN EXCITING SUGGESTION: WHY NOT *INVITE* KLARA'S FOLKS AND SURPRISE THEM?



THE VERY NEXT DAY THE TWO LETTERS WERE SENT OUT--- ONE TO HERR SESEMAN IN PARIS---THE OTHER TO FRAU SESEMAN IN RAGATZ.

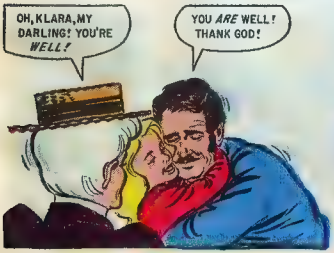


A WEEK LATER, HEIDI, LOOKING DOWN THE CLIFF TRAIL, SAW HERR SESEMAN COMING UP, LEADING THE HORSE ON WHICH GRANDMAMMA SAT.



WHEN THEY APPROACHED THE HUT NOBODY WAS IN SIGHT BUT LITTLE HEIDI! KLARA'S FATHER AND GRANDMAMMA WERE BADLY WORRIED...

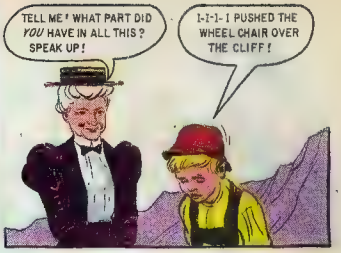
---UNTIL KLARA HERSELF, ROSY-CHEEKED AND SMILING, WALKED OUT TO MEET THEM---WITHOUT HELP! AND SO TANNED AND TALL!



THEN BOTH GRANDMAMMA AND HERR SESEMAN TRIED TO HUG KLARA AT THE SAME TIME, HARDLY KNOWING WHETHER TO LAUGH OR CRY, FOR JOY!

WHEN GRANDMAMMA TRIED TO GIVE THE ALM-UNCLE CREDIT, HE SAID THE REAL CURE WAS IN GOD'S SUNSHINE AND MOUNTAIN AIR.

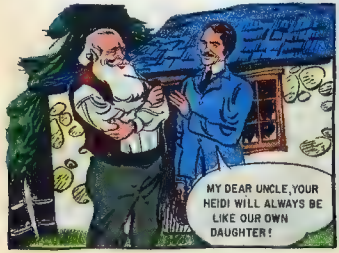
IN THE MIDST OF ALL THE HAPPY TALK, GRANDMAMMA ESPIED PETER, TRYING TO HIDE BEHIND ONE OF THE BIG FIR TRUNKS.



PETER MISUNDERSTOOD GRANDMAMMA'S WORDS---AND FELT SURE THAT HIS CRIME HAD BEEN FOUND OUT! HE WAS ALMOST TOO SCARED TO TALK.

SEEING HOW BADLY PETER FELT, GRANDMAMMA SAID THAT SHE FORGAVE HIM FOR THE CHAIR... AND PETER PROMISED TO BE A GOOD BOY.

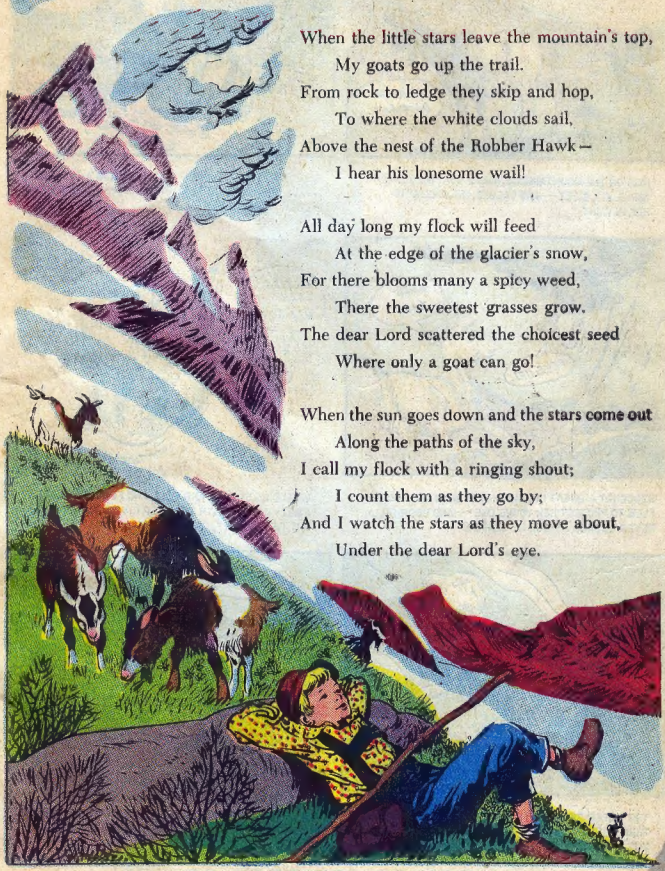
ASKED FOR HER DEAREST WISH, HEIDI REPLIED: " MY BIG BED FROM FRANKFURT---FOR PETER'S BLIND GRANDMOTHER TO SLEEP ON!"



THE ALM-UNCLE WOULD TAKE NO GIFT FOR HIMSELF---BUT HERR SESEMAN ASSURED HIM THAT HEIDI WOULD NEVER AGAIN HAVE TO LIVE WITH STRANGERS.

AND THAT NIGHT, AS THE TWO GIRLS KNELT BY THEIR BEDS IN THE LOFT, HEIDI KNEW THE DEAR LORD UNDERSTOOD JUST HOW THEY FELT!

The Goatherd's Song



When the little stars leave the mountain's top,
My goats go up the trail.
From rock to ledge they skip and hop,
To where the white clouds sail,
Above the nest of the Robber Hawk—
I hear his lonesome wail!

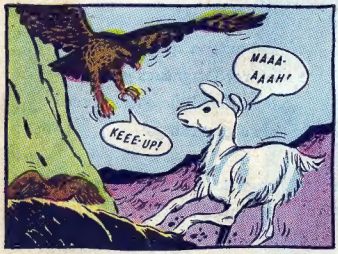
All day long my flock will feed
At the edge of the glacier's snow,
For there blooms many a spicy weed,
There the sweetest grasses grow.
The dear Lord scattered the choicest seed
Where only a goat can go!

When the sun goes down and the stars come out
Along the paths of the sky,
I call my flock with a ringing shout;
I count them as they go by;
And I watch the stars as they move about,
Under the dear Lord's eye.

The Goat That Stayed Behind

HIGH ON THE MOUNTAINSIDE, NANNY GOAT MISSED HER SMALL KID, BILLY---AND CALLED, AND CALLED TO HIM, IN VAIN!

BILLY WAS TOO OCCUPIED---CHALLENGING A STRANGE LITTLE CREATURE TO PLAY WITH HIM---A YOUNG HAWK FALLEN FROM ITS NEST.



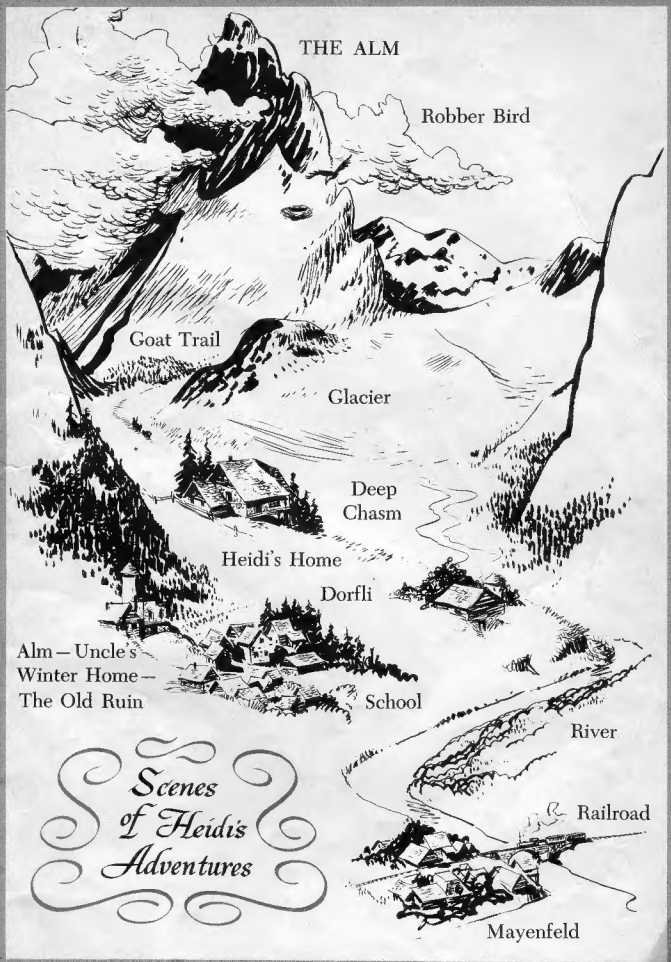
SUDDENLY A GREAT BIRD WITH OPEN BEAK AND TALONS FLEW TO PROTECT HER YOUNG ONE---AND POOR BILLY NEVER LOOKED BEFORE HE LEAPED!

LITTLE BILLY FELL AND FELL AND FELL, THROUGH EMPTY AIR---WITH THE DEEP RIVER WAITING FOR HIM, FAR BELOW!

THE WATER SEEMED TO STRIKE HIM A HARD BLOW... THEN HE WAS SWIMMING DESPERATELY UPWARD, NOT DARING TO BREATHE.

BUT A FEW MOMENTS LATER, HE WAS SWIMMING SAFELY TO THE RIVER BANK WHERE HIS MOTHER WAITED JOYOUSLY TO GREET HIM.

DELL COMICS ARE GOOD COMICS


THE ALM
Robber Bird
Goat Trail
Glacier
Deep Chasm
Heidi's Home
Dorfli
Alm – Uncle's Winter Home – The Old Ruin
School
River
Railroad
Mayenfeld
Scenes of Heidi's Adventures